



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
KEVIN W. CONCANNON, DIRECTOR

INFORMATIONAL RELEASE NO. 730

July 3, 2008

TO: Iowa Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) and Targeted Care Management (TCM) Providers

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Information for Medicaid Providers Impacted by Recent Disasters

The purpose of this informational release is to provide clarification for providers who have been impacted by the recent disasters in Iowa. The information below will assist in your efforts to provide and coordinate services needed for Iowa Medicaid members.

1. Will IME approve HCBS hours over and above the caps for those members affected by the recent disasters?

Yes. As needed, IME will allow for hours of services over and above the caps for individuals affected by the recent flooding and tornados. Case managers should use the same process they normally would to increase hours in the service plans. That is, the case manager will identify the need to increase the amount of HCBS services provided to a consumer and make changes to the consumer's service plan to reflect the increased need.

To assure providers will be paid, the additional services needed for the month of July must be entered into ISIS during the month of July. For additional HCBS services provided in the month of June that were not authorized in the consumers service plan, a case manager can complete a quality assurance (QA) form, using the current process to retroactively authorize the additional services provided.

If the additional service needs identified exceeds the current service or cost limits, an exception to policy may be needed. Case Managers can use the current process for requesting an exception to policy. Once received, IME will prioritize those requests so the approvals are done as quickly as possible.

2. Will IME grant extensions for the HCBS Provider Quality Assurance Self-Assessments that are due by August 1?

Yes, for providers affected by the disasters. To request an extension, providers can email, call or fax the request by August 1, 2008. When requesting an extension, please identify an approximate date expected to submit the self-assessment. Requests can be directed to any of the following:

E-mail: hcbs@dhs.state.ia.us

FAX: 515-725-1360 attn: HCBS

Phone: 515-725-1222

3. Will IME grant extensions for provider cost reports that are due September 30?

Yes, for providers affected by the disasters. The IME will grant extensions to the September 30, 2008 due date of cost reports with fiscal year ending June 30, 2008. This applies to any Medicaid provider that is required to file a cost report, whose operations or cost report preparer's operations were adversely affected due to circumstances caused by the recent disasters.

Extension requests must be received by September 30, 2008. To request an extension, providers can email, postal mail, call or fax a request. Requests can be directed the IME Provider Cost Audit and Rate Setting Unit by any of the following methods:

E-mail: costaudit@dhs.state.ia.us.

FAX: 515-725-1353

Phone: 866-863-8610 or 515-725-1108 (local)

Postal Mail: Iowa Medicaid Enterprise
Provider Cost Audit and Rate Setting Unit
P.O. Box 36450
Des Moines, IA 50315

4. What should TCM providers do if the recent disasters have affected their ability to implement the new TCM regulations?

IME will consider the impact of the flooding and tornados in planning for the implementation of the TCM regulations. In light of the federal moratorium, disasters affecting many areas of the state, and recent conversations with officials from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), we are working to clarify what aspects of the regulations may be delayed. Information will be communicated with all stakeholders as it becomes available.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Small Business Administration (SBA) assistance may be available to providers affected by the recent disasters. Further information on the federal assistance can be found at <http://www.flood2008.iowa.gov/>.

The IME appreciates your partnership as we work together to serve the needs of Iowa Medicaid members. If you have any questions, please contact IME Provider Services, telephone 1-800-338-7909, locally 515-725-1004 or by e-mail at: imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us